

Commonwealth Healthcare Network Fund  
August 1, 2013 Informational Session Questions

1. How will healthcare providers deal with their existing provider contracts? The KIH3 contract is the only approved Master Services Agreement (MSA) currently in place. We are hoping to expand to at least the Kentucky Post-Secondary Education Network (KPEN). If your pricing is equal to or less than approved MSA pricing, we hope that the Universal Services Administrative Corporation will accept the pricing for subsidy, but if it is higher, we do not expect those services to qualify for subsidy.
2. How will the consortium's facility count be determined from rural and urban submissions? Each facility will count as 1 site. A 500 bed urban hospital will count the same as a single practitioner clinic in rural Kentucky. The aggregate of all facilities must result in more than 50% rural for the urban facilities to be included. Our recommendation is to apply for all your healthcare facilities, administrative offices and data centers and allow the Office of Broadband Development and Outreach to determine which are urban, which are rural and do we have the appropriate mix if 50%+ rural.
3. When filling out the Letter of Interest, should physician practices be considered separately if they have separate communication lines within a single address? We believe that if a building houses several separate non-profit physician practices, and each practice has a discrete broadband connection from the outside, then each practice will be a separate facility.
4. Is there a requirement to use KIH3? At the moment, KIH3 is the only approved Master Services Agreement that is accepted by the Universal Services Administrative Corporation. We are hoping to expand that to include the KPEN network which includes many other healthcare facilities, especially those associated with educational facilities.
5. If you are already on the US program, how do you transition from the old program to the new program? That is yet to be determined. We do believe that everyone should be taking advantage of the existing Universal Services for Healthcare subsidy program today AND apply for the new Healthcare Connect Fund. The existing program will insure you are funded from July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014. We expect there to be a transition plan that will allow you to migrate to the HCF on January 1, 2014 if it results in higher subsidy than the current program.
6. Who do healthcare providers contact if they want to upgrade their communications? Since the KIH3 MSA has already been approved, by the Universal Services Administrative Corporation, then you could contact AT&T who is the lead agency on the contract and have them quote your services. State government facilities may need to speak to the Commonwealth Office for Technology to assess their need for upgraded broadband services and to order those services.